
Name of Organization: Michigan Department of Agriculture

Type of Organization: State

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Project Title: Michigan DIY Used Oil Collection

Project Category: Pollution Prevention and Reduction - BNS

Rank by Organization (if applicable): 2

Total Funding Requested (\$): 50,000 **Project Duration:** 1 Years

Abstract:

In spite of the efforts of local and state government agencies, the private sector, and non-profit environmental organizations to educate the public about proper collection and recycling of used motor oil, there continues to be a large problem with the improper disposal of used oil by do-it-yourselfers (DIYers) and a fragmented network of used oil collection centers in the State of Michigan. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), local health departments, and waste water treatment facilities continue to receive complaints and experience the indiscriminate dumping of used oil onto the ground, in the trash and sewers or otherwise mismanaged.

The largest DIY oil collection service provider in Michigan has collected in excess of 1.6 million gallons of used oil in 13 Michigan counties from 1992 through 1999. This oil collection program, operated at a net financial loss, is provided as a public service to Michigan communities. By upgrading existing and constructing new DIY used oil collection centers at 34 locations throughout Michigan, an environmentally sound and a user-friendly network of collection centers will be established.

This project seeks to establish 34 permanent DIY used oil collection sites in Michigan to collect more than 3 million gallons of used oil over the next ten years.

Geographic Areas Affected by the Project

States:

<input type="checkbox"/> Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/> New York
<input type="checkbox"/> Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> Wisconsin
<input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota	<input type="checkbox"/> Ohio

Lakes:

<input type="checkbox"/> Superior	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erie
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Huron	<input type="checkbox"/> Ontario
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> All Lakes

Geographic Initiatives:

<input type="checkbox"/> Greater Chicago	<input type="checkbox"/> NE Ohio	<input type="checkbox"/> NW Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/> SE Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> Lake St. Clair
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Primary Affected Area of Concern: Not Applicable

Other Affected Areas of Concern:

For Habitat Projects Only:

Primary Affected Biodiversity Investment Area: Not Applicable

Other Affected Biodiversity Investment Areas:

Problem Statement:

While a significant volume of used motor oil is generated annually by do-it-yourselfers (DIYers) in Michigan, only a fragmented collection network exists for recycling used oil. During the mid to late 1980s, state and local governmental agencies and environmental organizations focused on the importance of collecting used oil and a variety of private sector venues (i.e. service garages) cooperated to provide drop-off sites for the proper collection of used oil. Meijer, Inc. sponsored 19 oil collection stations throughout the state, representing the largest single business that collected used motor oil.

This oil collection service, however, soon became a liability to many of the businesses that provided the oil recycling sites. Used motor oil often was contaminated with hazardous materials such as paint and solvents which rendered the product unmarketable as on-specification used oil, thus driving up the treatment costs. Likewise, careless users often spilled oil at the collection site and left empty containers behind. Many gas stations quickly discontinued offering this service and in 1991, Meijer, Inc. ceased their DIY used oil program.

In 1992, Crystal Flash Petroleum Corporation (CFPC), realizing a significant void in the availability of used oil collection centers, experimented with a DIY oil collection "igloo" at a single convenience store, which increased to 27 sites by 1995. At present, CFPC remains the single largest DIY oil collection service provider in Michigan, having collected 1,613,835 gallons of DIY used oil in 13 Michigan counties from 1992-1999. The original collection tanks utilized at the CFPC stores are not available at every location, are in need of upgrade due to their age and use, are no longer large enough to store the volume of oil brought by DIYers, and lack a system to reduce spillage of oil from activities around the site.

Although an environmentally sound and user-friendly used oil collection center prototype has been developed for use at the 34 CFPC convenience stores, the initial construction costs for these permanent oil recycling centers remain prohibitive because the operation of these sites by CFPC, provided as a community service, is at a net financial loss.

Proposed Work Outcome:

This project seeks to establish a network of 34 permanent used oil collection centers in the State of Michigan that are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to DIYers. The existing CFPC DIY sites are in need of upgrading and the program will expand to areas that are not currently provided with this service. This program will collect over 3,000,000 gallons of use oil by 2010.

Project Milestones:**Dates:**

Project Start

10/2000

Construction of first collection site

11/2000

Construction of last collection site

09/2001

Project End

09/2001

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☐ Project Addresses Environmental Justice**If So, Description of How:**☒ Project Addresses Education/Outreach**If So, Description of How:**

This DIYer oil recycling program as proposed, is supported by a number of collaborating agencies. The education of DIYers in the proper management of used oil is critical. The Michigan Department of Agriculture, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Michigan State University Extension, the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts, the West Michigan Environmental Action Council, the Ottawa County Health Department, Crystal Flash Petroleum Corporation, other supporting county health departments, and waste water treatment plants will establish an outreach campaign to encourage both awareness and use of the DIYer used oil collection centers. This will be accomplished through PSAs, paid advertising (newspaper, radio, billboards), use of sales staff, news releases, newsletters, 24 hour pollution prevention telephone hot lines, and the like.

Additionally, the Ottawa Counth Health Department will distribute at no cost, 1,000 used oil "drainer containers" designed for DIY users. These reusable containers will facilitate the proper collection, storage and transportation of used oil to an oil recycling center. Drainer containers will also be made available, at cost, to DIYers at each of the 34 Crystal Flash convenience store locations.

Project Budget:

	Federal Share Requested (\$)	Applicant's Share (\$)
Personnel:	0	0
Fringe:	0	0
Travel:	0	0
Equipment:	0	0
Supplies:	0	6,000
Contracts:	0	0
Construction:	50,000	142,000
Other:	0	0
Total Direct Costs:	50,000	148,000
Indirect Costs:	0	0
Total:	50,000	148,000
Projected Income:	0	0

Funding by Other Organizations (Names, Amounts, Description of Commitments):

Ottawa County Health Department: \$22,800

Grand Traverse County Resource Recover: \$1,650

Kalamazoo County Human Services Department: \$3,300

Crystal Flash Petroleum Corporation, waste water treatment plants, community foundations, and other local agencies:
\$125,250

Description of Collaboration/Community Based Support:

County of Ottawa Environmental Health Division
Crystal Flash Petroleum Corporation
National Oil Recyclers Association
Kent County Department of Public Works
Ionia County Resource Recovery Program
Grand Traverse County Resource Recovery Program
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
City of Wyoming Waste Water Treatment Plant
Kalamazoo County Human Services Department
West Michigan Environmental Action Council
Michigan Department of Agriculture
Michigan State University Extension
Michigan Association of Conservation Districts